

## STRENGTHENING CONGOLESE DIASPORA AND LOCAL ACTORS EFFORTS IN NORTH AND SOUTH KIVU

This DEMAC project focuses on enhancing collaboration between Congolese diaspora and local actors in North and South Kivu, by strengthening fundraising capacities and supporting collaborative emergency relief efforts. Running until November 2025, the project will be implemented in close partnership with the Danish Refugee Council's Country Office in DR Congo.

This initiative comes at a critical time, as the escalation of armed conflict in Goma in January 2025 has led to a significant deterioration of the humanitarian situation in eastern DR Congo. Over half a million people have been newly displaced, adding to an already staggering 6.7 million internally displaced persons and over 21 million in need of humanitarian assistance (UNHCR, 2025).

*"This project builds on DEMAC's decade-long experience in supporting diaspora humanitarian collaboration and coordination. Diaspora efforts are still too often overlooked in the broader humanitarian response. This grant enables us to address gaps in coordination, fostering a more effective and sustainable approach to aid in DR Congo."*

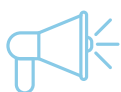
### KEY ACTIVITIES



**Research:** Conducting a Real-Time Review of current diaspora-led humanitarian response and their collaboration with local actors in DR Congo.



**Capacity Building:** Delivering crowdfunding training for diaspora and local actors to jointly create fundraising strategies and strengthen mobilization efforts.



**Coordination:** Facilitating workshops to for knowledge exchange, collaboration strategies, and fundraising support between diaspora and local actors.

## THE ROLE OF DIASPORA AS HUMANITARIAN ACTORS AND IN LOCALIZATION

Diaspora organizations are multi-sectoral, fast-responding actors that play a critical role in global humanitarian efforts. Yet, diaspora organizations have typically not been included in the international humanitarian system.

Through strengthened collaboration with diaspora organizations, DEMAC is exploring their humanitarian role and their collaboration and coordination with local actors on the ground.

1. KEEP CLOSE TIES TO THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
2. ARE MULTI-SECTORIAL
3. ARE ALERTED IN REAL-TIME BY THEIR COMMUNITIES
4. RESPOND FAST TO DISASTERS
5. WORK TRANSNATIONALLY AND REMOTELY
6. COLLECT AND DISPERSE FUNDS RAPIDLY
7. ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF CRISIS AFFECTED POPULATIONS

## DEMAC – DIASPORA EMERGENCY ACTION & COORDINATION

DEMAC is a global initiative that works for a deeper understanding of diasporas as humanitarian actors and improves coordination between diaspora organizations, local networks, and the broader humanitarian system.

DEMAC activities consist of three pillars: knowledge sharing, capacity building, and networking. DEMAC has developed an operational framework to support humanitarian response of diaspora and local actors that includes seconding diaspora liaison officers, providing context specific guidelines and tools.

DEMAC is currently working on several emergency-prone countries and regions, such as Afghanistan, Ukraine, Somalia, Lebanon and DR Congo.



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